

California Poultry Report



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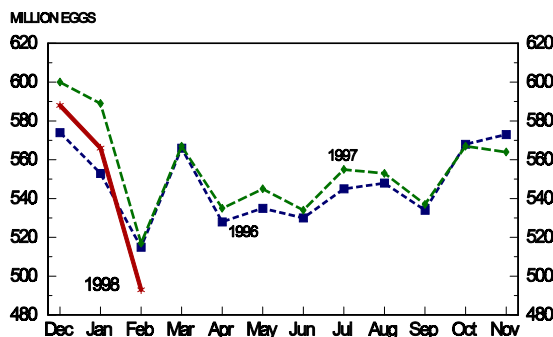
CALIFORNIA EGG PRODUCTION

California's egg production during February totaled 493 million, 73.0 million less than last month, and 26.0 million less than last February. Average number of layers during the month averaged 25.1 million, 2 percent below last month and 4 percent below February 1997. Eggs per 100 layers during the month averaged 1,962 compared to 2,223 last month and 1,992 in February 1997.

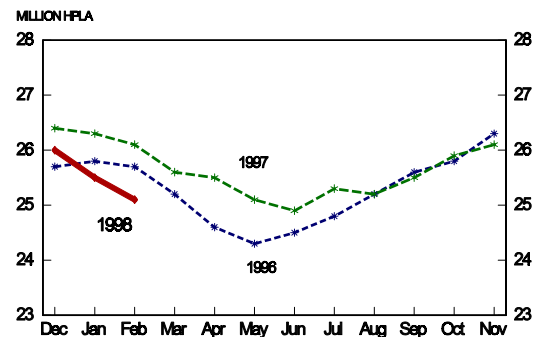
U.S. FEBRUARY EGG PRODUCTION

U.S. egg production totaled 6.07 billion during February 1998, up 3 percent from the 5.90 billion produced in 1997. Production included 5.12 billion table eggs and 950 million hatching eggs, of which 893 million were broiler-type and 57.0 million were egg-type. The total average number of layers during February 1998 averaged 312 million, up 3 percent from the total average number of layers during February 1997. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,946 eggs, up slightly from February 1997.

EGG PRODUCTION, CALIFORNIA
DECEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER, 1995-1998



AVERAGE NUMBER OF LAYERS, CALIFORNIA
DECEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER, 1995-1998



LAYER NUMBERS AND EGG PRODUCTION DURING FEBRUARY, FORCED MOLTING AS OF MARCH 1

State	Average Number of Layers on Hand		Eggs Per 100 Layers		Total Egg Production		Layers Being Molted		Layers With Molt Completed	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	-- Thousands --		-- Number --		-- Millions --		---- Percent ----			
Alabama	10,541	10,613	1,755	1,781	185	189	4.5	2.0	11.0	9.5
Arkansas	14,914	15,199	1,676	1,678	250	255	3.0	4.5	8.0	9.5
California	25,956	25,131	1,992	1,962	517	493	5.0	10.0	43.5	35.5
Georgia	19,828	20,844	1,891	1,871	375	390	1.5	4.0	22.5	18.0
Indiana	20,980	22,059	2,045	2,004	429	442	1.5	5.0	19.0	22.5
Iowa	20,701	22,685	1,913	1,984	396	450	3.0	5.5	36.5	29.5
North Carolina	12,835	11,297	1,753	1,717	225	194	1.0	0.5	11.5	14.5
Ohio	25,964	28,021	2,045	2,031	531	569	1.0	3.0	12.5	10.0
Pennsylvania	21,336	21,938	2,104	2,074	449	455	2.0	4.0	18.5	16.5
Texas	16,677	17,327	1,883	1,899	314	329	3.0	4.0	24.5	23.0
United States	303,888	312,043	1,943	1,946	5,904	6,073	2.4	4.4	22.9	21.2

U.S. BROILER HATCH UP 2 PERCENT

The February 1998 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 645 million, was up 2 percent from February of the previous year. Eggs in incubators totaled 608 million on March 1, 1998, up 3 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.26 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during February 1998. This was up 6 percent from February 1997.

BROILER-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, FEBRUARY

State	1997	1998	<u>1998</u> <u>1997</u>
	- Thousands -		Percent
Alabama	82,820	82,239	99
Arkansas	99,157	95,896	97
Delaware	15,053	14,329	95
Florida	9,149	8,902	97
Georgia	95,542	95,569	100
Maryland	27,164	27,576	102
Mississippi	55,756	57,204	103
North Carolina	55,020	54,133	98
Pennsylvania	11,574	11,615	100
South Carolina	14,026	13,227	94
Texas	36,949	41,325	112
Virginia	21,543	21,063	98
California, Tennessee & West Virginia	31,372	34,072	109
Washington & Oregon	5,233	4,804	92
Other States <u>1/</u>	70,901	82,550	116
UNITED STATES	631,259	644,504	102

1/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

U.S. EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED DOWN 2 PERCENT

Egg-type chicks hatched during February totaled 34.6 million, down 2 percent from February 1997. Eggs in incubators totaled 34.6 million on March 1, 1998, up 4 percent from a year ago.

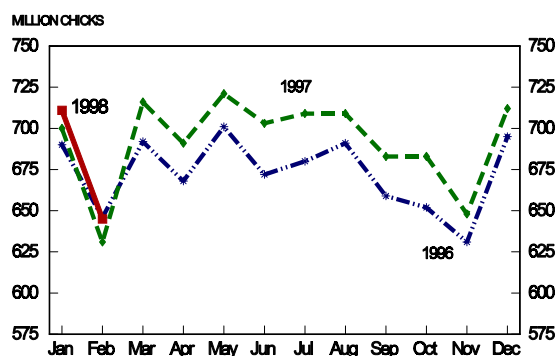
Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 239 thousand during February 1998. This was up 9 percent from the 219 thousand of February 1997.

EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, FEBRUARY

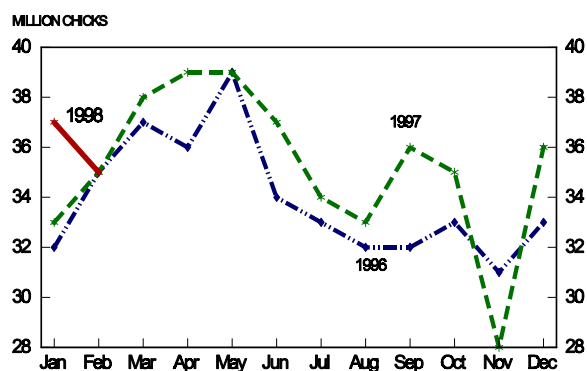
State	1997	1998	<u>1998</u> <u>1997</u>
	- Thousands -		Percent
Arkansas	1,005	1,045	104
Florida	1,039	1,097	106
Georgia	2,039	1,787	88
Indiana	7,326	6,094	83
Iowa	3,381	3,678	109
Kansas	173	193	112
Minnesota	2,247	1,610	72
Missouri	321	387	121
Pennsylvania	4,868	4,901	101
Other States <u>1/</u>	12,919	13,781	107
UNITED STATES	35,318	34,573	98

1/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

BROILER CHICKS HATCHED, UNITED STATES JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER, 1996-1998



EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, UNITED STATES JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER, 1996-1998



EGGS IN INCUBATORS, MARCH 1

Geographic Division	Broiler-Type			Egg-Type		
	1997	1998	1998/1997	1997	1998	1998/1997
	-- Thousands --		Percent	-- Thousands --		Percent
North Atlantic	11,984	12,250	102	5,858	5,680	97
East North Central	7,997	8,963	112	8,525	8,501	100
West North Central	22,729	22,827	100	5,520	7,253	131
South Atlantic	231,332	230,190	100	4,766	4,235	89
South Central	294,741	311,216	106	3,590	3,718	104
West	23,115	22,591	98	4,952	5,183	105
UNITED STATES	591,898	608,037	103	33,211	34,570	104

QUARTERLY LAYERS & EGG PRODUCTION - DECEMBER THROUGH FEBRUARY

State	Average Number Of Layers On Hand			Total Eggs Produced		
	1997	1998	1998/1997	1997	1998	1998/1997
	-- Thousands --		Percent	-- Million --		Percent
Alabama	10,826	10,636	98	615	616	100
Arkansas	15,164	14,933	98	827	815	99
California	25,965	25,672	99	1,680	1,659	99
Georgia	19,454	20,254	104	1,173	1,230	105
Indiana	21,044	21,496	102	1,380	1,406	102
Iowa	19,927	21,678	109	1,236	1,387	112
North Carolina	13,140	11,823	90	738	660	89
Ohio	24,893	27,266	110	1,659	1,803	109
Pennsylvania	21,428	21,835	102	1,454	1,467	101
Texas	16,499	17,089	104	1,014	1,060	105
United States	296,998	303,713	102	17,988	19,157	106

POULTRY AND EGG PRICES

The average February prices received by California producers, when compared to January average prices, remain constant for broilers and turkeys. Prices for market eggs decreased 14 cents per dozen.

Nationally, the February average prices received by producers increased 1.3 cents for broilers, but decreased 1.5 cents for turkeys. Market eggs decreased 11.4 cents per dozen.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY PRODUCERS, POULTRY AND EGG 1/

Commodity	Unit	Feb. 15, 1997	Jan. 15, 1998	Feb. 15, 1998
--- Cents ---				
CALIFORNIA				
Chickens-Broilers	Lb.	38.0	35.3	35.3
Market Eggs 2/	Doz.	70.0	69.2	55.0
Turkeys	Lb.	43.0	41.0	41.0
UNITED STATES				
Chickens-Broilers	Lb.	39.1	33.1	34.4
Market Eggs 2/	Doz.	65.4	62.5	51.1
Turkeys	Lb.	36.4	35.5	34.0

1/ The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by producers. They are averages for all grades, classes and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ Average for market (table) eggs including eggs sold retail by producers.

U.S. TURKEY HATCHERY PRODUCTION

U.S. turkey eggs in incubators on March 1, 1998 totaled 32.5 million, down 7 percent from March 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were down 3 percent from the February 1 total of 33.4 million. Regional changes from the previous year were as follows: E N Central, down 3 percent; W N Central, up slightly; N & S Atlantic, down 11 percent; S Central, down 18 percent; West, down 12 percent.

The 25.1 million poult placed during February 1998 in the United States were down 8 percent from the placements during the same month a year ago. Placements were down 4 percent from the January 1998 total of 26.2 million. Regional changes from the previous year were as follows: E N Central, down 8 percent; W N Central, down 8 percent; N & S Atlantic, down 6 percent; S Central, down 12 percent; West, down 4 percent.

REGIONAL TURKEY POULT PLACEMENT AND EGGS IN INCUBATORS

Geographic Division	Eggs in Incubators Mar. 1		1998 1997	Poults Placed during Feb. 1/		1998 1997
	1997	1998		1997	1998	
	Thousands	Percent		Thousands	Percent	
EN Central	5,016	4,864	97	3,654	3,378	92
WN Central	10,573	10,580	100	8,025	7,356	92
N & S Atlantic	11,717	10,432	89	9,135	8,575	94
S Central	3,966	3,263	82	3,520	3,090	88
West	3,763	3,313	88	2,811	2,694	96
U.S.	35,035	32,452	93	27,145	25,093	92

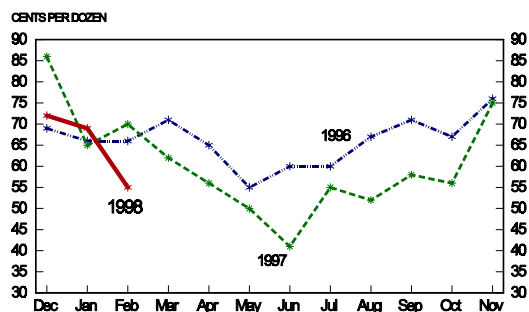
1/ Excludes exported poults.

U.S. TURKEY POULT PLACEMENTS 1/

Month	Total All Breeds		97-98 96-97	Cumulative Total		97-98 96-97
	1996-97	1997-98		1996-97	1997-98	
	Thousands	Percent		Thousands	Percent	
Sept.	24,154	23,907	99	24,154	23,907	99
Oct.	25,354	24,587	97	49,508	48,494	98
Nov.	23,830	23,281	98	73,338	71,775	98
Dec.	27,119	25,711	95	100,457	97,486	97
Jan.	27,121	26,240	97	127,578	123,726	97
Feb.	27,145	25,093	92	154,723	148,819	96
Mar.	27,610			182,333		
Apr.	28,220			210,553		
May	29,111			239,664		
June	28,381			268,045		
July	30,092			298,137		
Aug.	26,321			324,458		

1/ Excludes exported poults.

MARKET EGG PRICES, CALIFORNIA DECEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER, 1996-1997



PACIFIC COAST AND UNITED STATES COLD STORAGE

Commodity	Unit	February 28, 1997	January 31, 1998 <u>a/</u>	February 28, 1998	<u>Feb. 1998</u> <u>Feb. 1997</u>	<u>Feb. 1998</u> <u>Jan. 1998</u>
PACIFIC COAST		---- Thousands ----			-- Percent --	
Turkeys	Lbs.	54,347	70,875	74,847	138	106
Chickens	Lbs.	43,113	40,435	42,232	98	104
Ducks	Lbs.	325	572	528	163	92
Total Frozen Poultry Supplies	Lbs.	97,785	111,882	117,607	120	105
Eggs, Frozen	Lbs.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Eggs, Shell	Cases	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
UNITED STATES						
Turkeys	Lbs.	446,378	497,583	517,771	116	104
Chickens	Lbs.	699,890	624,971	625,770	89	100
Ducks	Lbs.	1,832	2,286	2,029	111	89
Total Frozen Poultry Supplies	Lbs.	1,148,100	1,124,840	1,145,570	100	102
Eggs, Frozen	Lbs.	11,475	12,049	12,345	108	102
Eggs, Shell	Cases	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

a/ Revised.